

**Health Risk Behaviors Among High School-Aged Youth**  
**National and Montana Comparisons of Selected Elements**  
*(with Non-random Data\*\* for Montana Respondents who Self-Identified as Students With Disabilities\*)*

*Sources: 2005 U.S. and 2007 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Surveys (OPI)*

<b>Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data</b> (percent of students who)	<b>Montana 2007 (SWD*)**</b>		<b>Montana 2007 High School</b>		<b>U.S. 2005 High School</b>
Carried a weapon in the past 30 days	33.3		22.1		18.4
Carried a gun in the past 30 days	15.7		7.8		6.5
Carried a weapon on school property in the past 30 days	16.0		9.7		6.5
Did not go to school in the past 30 days because they felt unsafe	7.9		4.2		5.4
Were in a physical fight in the past 12 months	44.8		32.8		30.3
Actually attempted suicide in the past 12 months	17.7		7.9		8.8
Ever smoked a cigarette (lifetime use)	64.5		52.1		54.5
Are "current" smokers (smoked on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	32.2		20.0		21.2
Ever smoked daily (at least 1 cigarette every day for 30 days)	26.7		12.9		13.8
Are "frequent" smokers (smoked on 20 or more of the previous 30 days)	15.5		8.1		8.8
Are "current" smokeless tobacco users (used chew or smokeless tobacco on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	21.0		12.9		8.4
Ever had consumed alcohol (lifetime alcohol use)	78.4		77.8		74.1
Are "current" alcohol users (drank alcohol on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	48.8		46.5		42.8
"Binge" drink (episodic heavy drinking, consuming 5 or more drinks at one occasion in the previous 30 days)	37.9		32.7		26.3
Ever used marijuana (lifetime marijuana use)	45.1		39.1		38.2

<b>Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data</b> (percent of students who)	<b>Montana 2007 (SWD*)**</b>		<b>Montana 2007 High School</b>		<b>U.S. 2005 High School</b>
Are “current” marijuana users (used marijuana 1 or more times in the previous 30 days)	25.7		21.0		18.9
Ever used inhalants (lifetime inhalant use)	25.3		16.2		12.2
Ever used methamphetamines (lifetime use)	8.6		4.6		5.9
Ever had sexual intercourse	54.8		45.7		44.8
Are currently sexually active (had sexual intercourse in the past 3 months)	34.0		31.2		33.3
Of those who ever had sex, the percent who used alcohol or drugs before last sexual intercourse	31.9		26.0		22.9
Are attempting to lose weight	47.2		43.6		46.3
Participated in 60 minutes of physical activity*** per day on five or more of the past seven days	40.3		44.9		33.9
Watch 3 or more hours of TV on a school night	31.0		22.2		34.7
Used alcohol before age 13	37.2		25.9		24.9
Smoked a cigarette before age 13	26.7		14.7		16.1
Tried marijuana before age 13	16.7		9.5		9.1
Had sexual intercourse before age 13	12.0		5.1		5.8

yrbs/comparison students with disabilities

\* Students With Disabilities are the 1,209 Montana high school students who answered ‘yes’ to the question “During the past 12 months, did you receive help from a resource teacher, speech therapist or other special education teacher?”

\*\* These data represent the respondents only; it would not be valid to generalize these findings to all students with disabilities in Montana.

\*\*\* Physical activity is defined as activity that increases your heart and makes you breathe hard.